

GOSSIP FROM STATE HOUSE

Ex-Congressman S. R. Barton of Grand Island has filed for renomination for the place which Congressman A. C. Shallenberger now holds. He will contest with ex-Congressman W. E. Andrews for the place.

Governor Morehead has received a contribution of \$12.50 from thirteen residents of Shelby. The money is for war sufferers in Poland and will be sent to Dr. P. L. Hall of Lincoln, treasurer of the Red Cross in Nebraska.

The apple and corn show will be given at the Lincoln auditorium, January 17-22, during the meetings of Organized Agriculture. Prof. George E. Condra, of the Nebraska Conservation and Public Welfare commission, will give moving picture demonstrations of Nebraska resources. Admission is free.

Fifty-one counties have reported to Labor Commissioner Coffey, through the county clerks, on farm mortgages filed during 1915. The number was 12,366 and the gross amount \$2,561,921. On farm mortgages released, fifty-four counties have reported. The number of these was 10,749 and the aggregate amount \$7,928,777.

Because the Burlington railroad last July annulled a daily local freight train both ways between Hastings and McCook without first obtaining permission from the state railway commission, it is now ordered by that body, in an opinion written by Commissioner Hall to re-establish the service as given before the date mentioned.

Food Commissioner Harman won another step in the litigation against oil companies when the Douglas county district court terminated an action brought there to evade compliance with state law, and held oil companies responsible to a supreme court order compelling them to continue recognizing state regulation until their dispute with Mr. Harman can be fully aired before that body.

The Nebraska State Horticultural society in session at Lincoln, elected officers for the ensuing year, Wednesday morning. They are: President Val Keyser, Nebraska City; first vice president, L. C. Chapin, Lincoln; second vice president, R. F. Howard, Lincoln; treasurer, Peter Youngers, Geneva. Members of board of directors: A. J. Brown, Geneva, and W. A. Harrison, York. The secretary is named by the directors.

A report filed with Labor Commissioner Coffey shows that the \$30,000 damage suit filed on behalf of Jacob Herman, a boy under 16 years of age, who had part of one hand crushed in the cog wheels of a press at the Nebraska Printing company's plant in Lincoln, has been settled by the payment of \$1,750 to young Herman, \$250 to his father for the latter's right of action, a \$48 doctor bill and \$11 of court costs, making \$2,059 altogether.

Tuesday was prolific in state politics. More filings were made than at any time in the past. In the list were: A. R. McKelvie of Lincoln, republican candidate for governor; Fred Beckman of Lincoln, republican, for third term as land commissioner; W. H. Reynolds of Chadron, republican, for state treasurer; Harry Adams of Chadron, democrat, for state treasurer; W. L. Minor of Lincoln, republican, for state auditor. Robert Ross of Lexington who endeavored to file for president on the democratic ticket, was turned down by Secretary Pool. His papers were defective.

The supreme court of Nebraska adheres to its former opinion and has overruled State Treasurer George E. Hall's motion for a rehearing in the suit instituted by State Finance Commissioner W. S. Ridgell. A writ of mandamus will issue immediately to compel the state treasurer to countersign state warrants amounting to \$4,376 issued in payment of salaries and expenses of the state fire commissioner from September 1 to January 1. Treasurer Hall had refused to pay such claims on the ground that funds paid into the state treasury by fire insurance companies in compliance with a statute taxing such companies had not been specially appropriated by the legislature.

Representative F. W. Broome, of Box Butte, called on Governor Morehead and tendered his resignation, to take effect immediately. Mr. Broome is soon to remove temporarily from his district to accept a federal appointment as receiver of the government land office at Valentine. His home is now at Alliance. Removal from the legislative district vacates the office, so Mr. Broome tendered his resignation that the governor might fill the vacancy. Governor Morehead appointed Charles Tully, of Alliance, to fill the vacancy.

Elmer J. Burkett of Lincoln has announced his candidacy for the republican nomination for vice president of the United States. In doing so he set at rest rumors that he intended to make a fight for his old seat in the United States senate.

According to a report prepared by the state veterinarian's office, 1,507 cattle have been inspected during the time from April 1 to December 15, and 74.16 per cent have shown signs of tuberculosis, the exact number being 879.

State Auditor Smith has received reports from government land offices at Valentine and Broken Bow showing that 1,211 homesteads have been decided by the government and are now taxable lands. This makes a total of 1,447 tracts of government land that has been decided to homesteaders in 1915. The counties in which lands reported by the Valentine and Broken Bow offices are: Cherry, Brown, Rock, Keya Paha, Blaine, Thomas, Logan, Arthur, McPherson, Hooker, Grant and Custer.

Busy Newspaper Man

COPYRIGHT BY WESTERN NEWSPAPER UNION

HERE'S A SKETCH OF ROBERT WICKLIFFE WOOLLEY, DIRECTOR OF THE MINT, BY EDWARD B. CLARK, HIS OLD JOURNALISTIC SIDE PARTNER, NOW DEAN OF WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENTS.



By EDWARD B. CLARK.

ONE of Washington's humorists declared once upon a time that the reason so many newspaper men are appointed to positions in the United States treasury is that the scribes' heart desire is for once in their lives to get next to a lot of money. One gets next to much money in the building containing Uncle Sam's strong box, but he doesn't get hold of any great amount of it, although the salaries paid are in a general way more than fairly comfortable.

Robert Wickliffe Woolley is one of the latest of America's well-known newspaper men to be appointed to a position in the treasury department. As someone else has put it, Woolley makes more money than any other man in the United States, but the personal difficulty is that he is not allowed to keep the proceeds of his manufacture. He is the director of the mint, and everybody knows that the province of the mint is to turn out money for the multitudinous uses of the people of these United States.

There are not many newspaper men in the country who are better known than this present official of Uncle Sam's government. Woolley looks about thirty years old, but he can add quite a number of years on to that and give no lie to the date of his birth. He has been a reporter, a sporting editor, a managing editor, an editor, and a writer of magazine articles, and today he can pick up any one of his old jobs and do it justice, and if the whirligig of politics in time shall thrust him forth from the portals of the treasury department, he probably and very naturally will turn to tread in the old accustomed ways.

The writer of this has known Woolley for a good many years, and worked with him side by side for a considerable length of time on a great Chicago daily. Woolley was then a sporting editor. He is an outdoor man, who loves the things which all full-blooded Americans love, and, moreover, he knows how to write about them, whether it be as a close finish on a Kentucky track or a 14 innings "so far" 0 to 0 at the National league grounds in New York city. Woolley loves sport for sport's sake, but it must not be supposed for a minute that sport ever occupied the major part of his time.

From boyhood until this day the present director of the mint has been a student of sociological conditions, of economics and of the ways and means of legislation to get for the people what they ought to have. Convictions that certain lines of procedure were the right ones to follow, and a determination to follow them, have given Robert W. Woolley many strenuous and exciting hours during his long newspaper career.

It is not necessary to explain to the people of the United States what a political ring is, nor is it necessary to explain what an invisible government is. Certain brave spirits in newspaperdom have been fighting rings and invisible government for years, and it has made no difference to the courageous ones whether the ring was composed of men of their own party, or whether the invisible government likewise was tinged with a partisan color of a hue ordinarily deemed admirable by the crusaders. The director of the mint is a Democrat, but he has fought Democrats when they were trying to exploit the people for selfish ends.

Not long after he entered newspaper work the director of the mint had a "time of it," which tested his courage and the sincerity of his convictions. I am not going to mention the name of the place where a certain thing happened, but unquestionably the scene of it will be recognized by many and the details will be remembered by men who have not yet arrived on the borders of middle age.

Down in the South, and not very far in the South, either, Robert W. Woolley was once managing editor of a newspaper of prominence in a city of considerable size. The chief editor of his paper and the mayor of the town were engaged in a row, for the mayor, it was believed, was connected with a municipal political combination which, as the editor viewed it, was far from being an institution intended to benefit the people of the community. Finally the lie was passed, and the lie is, or was, anyway, a sure fighting word in certain communities.

One morning Mr. Woolley went down to the newspaper office and found the mayor of the town and his son, each with a gun in hand, holding the



The Building is Uncle Sam's New Money Factory, and Below Are Employees Counting His Millions.

entire business office force of the newspaper prisoners behind their counters. The intruders were threatening to shoot anybody who attempted to leave. Woolley had no gun. He entered the office and proceeded to address some remarks made up of words ordinarily considered of the fighting kind to the armed intruders.

Woolley reached for a telephone, took it off the receiver and was laughing at by the gunmen, who told him that they had cut the wire. Woolley stood there with the receiver in his hand for a minute while red-hot verbiage was exchanged. Then Woolley walked straight by the two armed men and went out of the door, and neither one cared or dared to interfere with him.

Later it developed that while the receiver was off, although the wire had been cut, the chief editor of the paper at his home had taken off his own receiver to call up the office, and found he could not get it. But as only one wire was severed he heard a large part of the conversation in the office by means of the uncut wire connected with the office telephone. What he heard afterwards was used in evidence, for court proceedings were brought.

Now, it is just here that an ordinary newspaper man would have become disgusted with the profession which he was trying to follow and would have thought that the whole world was out of joint. The mayor of the town and his son were editors of a rival newspaper. This rival stood, of course, for the municipal ring, and it was things which appeared in its columns which had caused the other editor, Mr. Woolley's chief, to put the lie in print. While things seemingly were still at white heat between the two camps the mayor and his rival editor, whom he was ready to shoot, or be shot by, made up their differences, combined the two papers, and thus Woolley, who had dared everything for his chief, was forced out, and in the parlance of the street, was "left to hold the bag." In other words, Bob Woolley stood for right and principle and then lost his job.

There was a celebrated law case in Kentucky that attracted world-wide attention. After the municipal ring episode and Mr. Woolley had lost his place as managing editor, he became a reporter and he handled this case. There came down from Chicago at this time two newspaper men who since have become widely known—Eugene Bertrand, now of the New York Herald, and William E. Lewis, the editor of the New York Telegraph. They had been sent down from Chicago to work on the matter Woolley had in hand, and they became acquainted with him. They found out a lot of things about him which appealed to their newspaper sense. They also discovered that he was fond of American sports. They went back to Chicago and a short time thereafter Woolley, who knew nothing about their interest in him, received an offer from the Chicago Tribune to become a reporter in the sporting department of that paper. He went to Chicago, and it was not long before he became the sporting editor of the newspaper whose staff he joined.

From Chicago the present director of the mint went to New York, and for a long time was employed on the New York World. A little later, as somebody else has put it, "he yielded to the temptation of a beautiful fruit plantation in Texas." The fruit was not altogether golden, as far as the proceeds from the sale of the crops were concerned, and Mr. Woolley went back into the newspaper profession.

For six months, which he has described as "six eventful months," he was the editor of a newspaper in a southern town, whose locality I shall not give here, because of certain circumstances connected with the case. There it was another case of being compelled to edit with a revolver in the hand and also to walk with a gun exceedingly handy. The ring eventually was broken into bits, but meanwhile Mr. Woolley had lost his newspaper.

For a short time thereafter Mr. Woolley was the editor of the San Antonio Light in Texas. Then he went back to New York and entered upon a really notable career as a magazine writer. He was sent on many assignments throughout the country for some of the best magazines in the United States, and then he became one of the Washington correspondents of the New York World, a position which he held for about two years. Then again Mr. Woolley turned to magazine work, and in the year 1911 he became the chief investigator of the congressional committee appointed to look into the affairs of the United States Steel corporation. This committee was known as the Stanley committee.

Because of its wide-reaching effects, it is probable that a magazine article entitled, "The Plunders of Washington," was the most notable contribution to the "news and information of the day," which Mr. Woolley ever wrote. This article was preceded by an intimation that anyone mentioned and who chose so to do might know that he had recourse in the courts. In other words, the information upon which the article was based was tested in advance. This article was called by the press of the time "fearless." It dealt with some of Washington's big bankers and real estate men and with a good many officials.

Woolley was writing just as he wrote when he was attacking municipal rings in smaller towns of the country. It is not too much to say, perhaps, that the article largely was responsible for a complete change in the manner of men appointed to positions of high trust in the municipal government of the city of Washington, for Washington in a way has municipal government, being under the rule, of course, of congress, but having a board of District commissioners as responsible heads.

In the year 1912 Mr. Woolley was the editor and compiler of the "Democratic Text Book," and was chief of the campaign of publicity bureau of the Democratic national committee. He also compiled the text book of 1914. His political affiliations at this time, however, newspaper men believe, did not have anything to do with his appointment to office. His efforts along liberal and progressive lines had attracted the attention of Woodrow Wilson. Mr. Woolley was appointed first as auditor for the interior department, an office which, despite its name, is under the control of the treasury department. Then he was given his present position as director of the mint. He is filling it.

I am writing this article with feelings of personal admiration and liking, perhaps even of affection, for I have known Woolley for years. He is a tried man. He is one of the newspaper fraternity, and after nearly a quarter of a century of close acquaintance I know that I can say that he is an honor to it. Robert Wickliffe Woolley lives just outside of Washington in Fairfax, Va. It is this little town which has possession of the wills of George and Martha Washington, and some parts of the bill of rights of George Mason. It is a good place for a Democrat of strongly progressive tendencies to live.

Mr. Woolley married Marguerite Trehelm of Winchester, Virginia. They have four children, all girls. The family life is of the kind accounted ideal. In the books Mr. Woolley is put down as Robert Wickliffe Woolley, but newspaper men from coast to coast and from the Canada line to the Gulf know him much better as "Bob."

SAFETY FIRST IN ALL THINGS.

"Why do you always carry your umbrella, even when it is not raining?"
"So someone else won't carry it when it is raining."—Pennsylvania Punch Bowl.

A MARINE JOY RIDE.

Motor Boat (to passenger)—Did you see me cut down that fisherman in the skiff?
Passenger—Sure! Say, this is almost as much fun as automobilizing.

sales. The cheaper and more showy kinds of furniture and ornaments are being sold as fast as they can be turned out, and the Kidderminster carpet factories cannot meet the home demand.

The Eskimos have an original superstition. They say that one day Aniga, the moon, chased his sister, the sun, in wrath. Just as he was about to catch her, however, she turned round and threw a great handful of soot in his face, and thus escaped him; and of that soot he bears the traces to this day.

A good grade of paper can now be commercially made from the hop refuse of breweries, which has heretofore been thrown away.

Uncle Sam made \$2,500,000 last year from the sale of wood from the government forests.

Fields & Slaughter Co.

DEALERS IN
Grain, Feed, Flour, Hay and Coal
Fred J. Parker, Manager
Phone No. 4
Dakota City, Nebr.

Westcott's Undertaking Parlors

Auto Ambulance
Old Phone, 426
New Phone 2087
Sioux City, Iowa

Abstracts of Title

A \$10,000 Surety Bond Guarantees the accuracy of every Abstract I make.
J. J. EIMERS, Bonded Abstractor.
Successor to the DAKOTA COUNTY ABSTRACT CO.

Licensed Embalmer Lady Assistant
Ambulance Service

Wm. F. Dickinson Undertaking

415 Sixth Street
Sioux City, Iowa

9 Great Serials

The year 1916 will be crowded with the very best reading in



The Youth's Companion

9 Great Serials 250 Short Stories

CUT THIS OUT
and send it for the name of this paper with \$2.00 for THE COMPANION for 1916, and we will send
FREE All the issues of THE COMPANION for the remaining weeks of 1915.
FREE THE COMPANION HOME CALENDAR for 1916.
THEN The \$2 Weekly Issues of THE COMPANION for 1916.

Rare Articles, Nature and Science, Exceptional Editorial Staff, Family Page, Boys' Page, Girls' Page, Children's Page. All ages liberally provided for.

Twice as much as any magazine gives in a year. Fifty-two times a year—not twelve.

Send to-day to The Youth's Companion, Boston, Mass., for THREE CURRENT ISSUES—FREE.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED AT THIS OFFICE

I Have Taken the Agency and Will Be On the Road FOR

Dr. Koch's Remedies

Extracts, Spices, Etc.

Will make regular calls on all my former and prospective customers in Dakota County, the East Half of Dixon County and the North Half of Thurston County, and hope for the same cordial business relations as existed heretofore.

J. P. ROCKWELL

Dakota City, Nebraska

Mail Orders will be given Prompt and Careful Attention

The American Boy



The SAFE boys' magazine
"The American Boy" is a safe magazine for boys. It is full of interesting stories, and is a safe place for boys to read. It is a safe place for boys to read. It is a safe place for boys to read.

The American Boy, \$1.00
The HERALD, - \$1.00
Both, for - \$1.70

Read by 500,000 boys
—and endorsed by their parents